

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 00989 140950Z

46

ACTION VO-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SCA-01 PPT-01 CIAE-00 FBIE-00

INSE-00 NSAE-00 PRS-01 /013 W
----- 029752

R 140910Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8385

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: (CVIS (MOON SUN MYUNG)

SUBJECT: UNIFICATION CHURCH, MASS MARRIAGE

REF: STATE 032388

1. INFORMATION REGARDING DEPARTURE FROM KOREA OF ALIENS WHO MARRIED AMCITS REQUESTED PARAGRAPH THREE REFTEL UNOBTAINABLE. IN CONVERSATION WITH CONSULAR OFFICER FEBRUARY 7, MISS KOEPKE MENTIONED GROUP PLANNED TOUR JAPAN FOR UNSPECIFIED PERIOD FOLLOWING MASS WEDDING KOREA. ALL FLIGHTS FROM SEOUL CARRYING UNIFICATION CHURCH GROUP HAD SCHEDULED STOPS JAPAN. HOWEVER, WE UNABLE DETERMINE IF ALL DISEMBARKED THERE OR IF ANY PROCEEDED TO U.S. FLIGHTS' DESTINATION U.S. UNKNOWN HERE.

2. WE HAVE HAD NO REQUESTS FOR VISAS BY ANY ALIEN KNOWN TO BE CONNECTED WITH THIS GROUP.

3. VIEW POSSIBILITY ALIEN MEMBERS GROUP MAY REQUEST VISAS JAPAN, WE ARE REPEATING SEOUL 0861 AND 0901 AND STATE 032388 TO TOKYO FOR DISEMINATION ALL VISA ISSUING POSTS JAPAN.

4. NO AMERICAN MEMBER THIS GROUP APPEARED AT EMBASSY FOR MARRIAGE PROCESSING AND WE HAVE CONFIRMED THAT MAYOR'S OFFICE AT CITY HALL WAS NOT REQUESTED TO AND DID NOT REGISTER ANY MARRIAGE INVOLVING AN AMERICAN OR AMERICANS. CONSEQUENTLY, THE MARRIAGES
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WHICH INVOLVED ONE OR MORE AMERICAN ARE INVALID UNDER KOREAN

AND AMERICAN LAW. ALTHOUGH EMBASSY CAREFULLY EXPLAINED TO
UNIFICATION CHURCH REPRESENTATIVE THAT MARRIAGES INVOLVING
AMERICANS MUST BE PROCESSED THROUGH EMBASSY AND RECORDED AT
CITY HALL IN ORDER TO BE LEGAL MARRIAGE UNDER KOREAN AND U.S.
LAW, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THIS INFORMATION WAS NOT MADE AVAILABLE
TO OTHER AMERICAN MARRIAGE PARTICIPANTS. THEREFORE, SINCE
SOME AMERICANS MAY ERRONEOUSLY BELIEVE THEIR RELIGIOUS
CEREMONY IN KOREA CONSTITUTES VALID MARRIAGE, DEPARTMENT
MAY WISH TO ISSUE PRESS RELEASE THIS SUBJECT.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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